gain in the arrangement with Messrs. Dada and Co., and, therefore, did not consider it necessary to send them because Messrs. Ferris and Co., were not likely to know the expenses incurred this side.

(8) No invoice was sent to the Member for Mattancheri. Mr.Koder, who was an applicant for this year's supply, asked the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer for a few invoices and they were ordered to be sent to him.

(9), (10) and (11). After a few days the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer got a comparative statement from him with a letter that we were paying higher prices but he found that his conclusions were based on insufficient data.

Original works in certain Panchayats.

172. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(a) whether any of the original works included in the budget estimates of the Desamangalam, Panjal, Kariyannur, Machad and Varavur Panchayats for the year 1104 had been included in the budget estimates of the previous year or years;

(b) if so, what are the works which have so recurred in the bubget estimates of the previous years;

(c) for how many years have these works been recurring items in the Panchayat budgets?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) A list is placed on the Council Table.

(c) Vide column 3 of the list.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Several works have recurred for so many years in the Panchayat. May I know what is the reason of this recurrence of the works provided for in a particular year in another year? Works provided for in the preceding year are provided for in the succeeding year also. Why this recurrence?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Works provided for one year were not carried out.

Mr. V.V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—So in all these cases the works were provided for and were not carried out?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I cannot say in all these cases.

Tenders for original works in Panchayats.

173. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Superintendent of Panchayats has called for tenders for works to be executed in the several Panchayats for 1104;

(b) if so, the names of such Panchayats and the section which gives power to the Superintendent to call for such tenders;

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(c) the special reason that prompted the Superintendent to take away the power from those Panchayats?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Yes; through the respective Panchayats in certain cases.

(b) Vilvattom, (2) Thaniam, (3) Vadakkancheri, (4) Kariyannur, (5) Porathisseri, (6) Parappukkara, (7) Ollur, (8) Velukkara, (9) Vellarappalli, (10) Ollukkara, (11) Irinjalakkuda, (12) Kattur, (13) Adatt, (14) Ayyanthole, (15) Padiyur. There is no special section regarding this.

(c) Publishing a notification from this office inviting tenders through Panchayats, does not mean taking away the power of Panchayats. This has only minimised the work of the several Panchayats. What was actually done was to cause notifications to be published in the Gazette and also to have spare copies of the printed notification distributed to the several Panchayats with a view to give wide publicity to the work. By the notification, the tenders were to be presented in the respective Panchayats who were asked to transmit them to the Superintendent with their remarks. The agreements, etc., are also got executed through Panchayats and they are to supervise the works.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know, when there is already complaint that the Superintendent is overburdened with work, why he should take this burden also, if there is no special rule regarding that.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The procedure that I have adopted means less waste of energy, less waste of Government paper and less waste of time. All these works are entered in one notification and so it saves considerable time and energy.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it not an additional burden to the Superintendent?

President.—He does not consider it to be so.

174. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(a) as to the rules which authorises the Panchayat Superintendent to call for and accept tenders with respect to original works within the limits of the Panchayats;

(b) whether such rules have been published in the Government Gazette; if so, the date and page of the Gazette;

(c) whether the Government has considered that active interference with the internal work of the Panchayats is contrary to the policy underlying the constitution of Panchayats as independent and self-governing institutions?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) and (b). Vide answer to question No. 173 (b).

(c) No such active interference requiring special consideration has been brought to the notice of the Government.

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